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**PATENT**

**METHOD OF TREATING AND METHOD OF PREVENTING DIABETES**

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**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 10/674,145 filed September 29, 2003, currently pending, which claims priority based on 10 provisional patent application Serial Number 60/499,976 filed September 3, 2003.

**TECHNICAL FIELD**

15 This invention relates generally to the prevention and treatment of diabetes, and more particularly to a method for the prevention and a method for the treatment of diabetes utilizing anti-fungal agents and/or anti-fungal dietary regimes.

**BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

As used herein the term "diabetes" means both type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes. Type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile-onset diabetes, describes the 5 condition wherein an animal or human displays abnormally high levels of serum glucose due to lack of endogenously-produced insulin. The lack of insulin in type 1 diabetes is brought about by the destruction of the insulin-producing beta cells in the islets of 10 Langerhans in the pancreas. Blood sugar control in type 1 diabetes therefore requires life-long use of exogenous insulin, whether in the form of self-administered injections or automatic insulin-infusing pumps, or an islet-cell transplantation procedure. The cause of type 15 1 diabetes is unknown at this time, although there is speculation about genetic, auto-immune, infectious, or environmental causes. On the other hand, there are specific, known causes of type 1 diabetes, such as certain chemotherapeutic drugs, such as streptozotocin, 20 and other, fungal metabolites, known as mycotoxins, where the prefix "myco" means fungus.

Type 2 diabetes, formerly called adult-onset diabetes, is not as much characterized by the lack of insulin but rather the resistance of the peripheral tissues to the action of insulin. In this case,

5 pancreatic cells are typically producing normal or near-normal amounts of insulin, but the cells elsewhere in the body (for example, muscle cells), have become resistant to insulin's action of causing the uptake of glucose from the bloodstream into the cell. Therefore,

10 high levels of serum glucose are also a result of type 2 diabetes. The cause of type 2 diabetes is also currently unknown, but there have been strong correlations with an unhealthy diet and sedentary lifestyle. Type 2 diabetes represents 90-95% of all cases of diabetes in America.

15 Diabetes of either form is associated with long-term complications, known as co-morbidities, such as heart, eye and kidney disease, and peripheral blood vessel disease, which can lead to nerve damage and poor wound healing, which can in turn lead to amputation of

20 extremities. People with diabetes are encouraged to actively participate in the management of their diabetes, and maintain good control of their blood sugar

in order to minimize the number and severity of such complications. Yet the American Diabetes Association asserts that, despite adequate blood sugar control with either insulin or oral, prescriptive, blood sugar-lowering medications, up to one third of all people with diabetes will still suffer from these secondary, long-term effects of diabetes. This implies that there is an outside factor -- something other than sugar or blood sugar alone -- that is contributing to the ravages caused by diabetes.

Advances in diabetes treatment techniques, including chemotherapeutical, pharmaceutical, surgical, immune-modulating, and vaccine-related techniques, are well publicized. Unfortunately, none of these techniques is useful until the existence of diabetes has been confirmed. Equally unfortunate is the fact that no technique currently exists for treating diabetes-like symptoms prior to confirmation that diabetes does in fact exist.

The present invention comprises the use of antifungals -- medicinal, synthetic, and naturally-occurring -- in the prevention and treatment of diabetes

in mammals. The use of the antifungal substances pertains to preventive use, empiric use, and specifically-directed use of the antifungals toward the treatment and prevention of diabetes in mammals.

5 Preventive use means using antifungal substances to avoid instances of diabetes altogether. Empiric use indicates the use of an antifungal substance when the onset of diabetes is suspected. Specifically-directed use applies when diabetes has been confirmed by

10 laboratory tests such as serum or urine glucose levels, c-peptide levels, Hemoglobin A1-c levels, or has been confirmed when a related disease commonly found in diabetes is diagnosed and the diagnosis of the related disease leads to a search for and the confirmation of

15 the diagnosis of diabetes.

The present invention also comprises the use of a specific diet for both the treatment and the prevention of diabetes. A specific diet is used in conjunction with or apart from antifungal medications or naturally-  
20 occurring antifungal substances. The diet is a low-carbohydrate type of diet that is designed to be low in sugars in the form of simple and complex carbohydrates,

and therefore low in naturally-occurring, disease-causing, and immune-suppressing fungal toxins, known as mycotoxins.

The present invention further comprises the use of  
5 both the diet and antifungal substances either as the sole therapies for the diabetes or in combination with conventional chemotherapeutical, pharmaceutical, surgical, immune-modulating, vaccine-related, or any combination of conventional therapies.

10 In addition, the present invention comprises the use of the specific diet, with or without antifungal substances, if both or either are used in conjunction with any alternative type of therapy. Alternative therapies are those that are currently defined by the  
15 National Institutes of Health's Office of Alternative Medicine and/or the National Center for Complimentary and Alternative Medicine. Such alternative practices may include nutrition, massage, chiropractic manipulation, mind-body medicine, Ayurveda, naturopathy,  
20 homeopathy, reflexology, magnet therapies, hypnosis, vitamin and herbal therapies, biofeedback, osteopathic manipulation therapy, aromatherapy, and others.

In addition, the present invention applies to the use of antifungals, with or without the specific diet, to any disease or syndrome characterized in part by insulin resistance and/or hyperglycemia, with or without 5 damage to the pancreas, whether the condition can be related to being caused by diet and lifestyle or caused by pharmaceutical or naturally-occurring chemicals or infectious organisms.

In addition, the present invention applies to the 10 use of the specific diet, with or without antifungal substances, in combination or singularly, in the treatment and/or prevention of the co-morbidities related to diabetes. These conditions include: hypertension, cerebrovascular disease, atherosclerotic 15 coronary artery disease, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy (eye disease) and blindness, cataracts - systemic inflammation (characterized by elevation of inflammatory markers such as erythrocyte sedimentation rate or C-reactive protein), birth defects, pregnancy 20 related diabetes, pre-eclampsia and hypertension in pregnancy, kidney disease (renal insufficiency, renal failure etc.), nerve disease (diabetic neuropathy),

superficial and systemic fungal infections, congestive heart failure, gout/hyperuricemia, obesity, hypertriglyceridemia, hypercholesterolemia, fatty liver disease (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, or NASH), and 5 diabetes-related skin diseases such as Necrobiosis Lipoidica Diabeticorum (NLD), Blisters of diabetes (Bullosis Diabeticorum), Eruptive Xanthomatosis, Digital Sclerosis, Disseminated Granuloma Annulare, and Acanthosis Nigricans.

10 In addition, the present invention applies to the treatment and prevention of such diabetes precursors as "Syndrome X," also known as Metabolic Syndrome, as well as Impaired Glucose Tolerance. Metabolic Syndrome is currently defined as having 3 out of the 5 following 15 conditions:

- 20 ▪ Abdominal obesity (waist circumference greater than 40 inches in men or greater than 35 inches in women)
- Hypertriglyceridemia (triglyceride level greater than or equal to 150mg/dl)
- Low HDL-Cholesterol (greater than 40mg/dl in men or greater than 50mg/dl in women)
- 25 ▪ High blood pressure (greater than or equal to 130/85)
- High fasting glucose (impaired glucose tolerance (IGT): fasting blood sugar between 110 and 126mg/dl) See, Blackburn,

G, et al. The Obesity Epidemic: Prevention and Treatment of the Metabolic Syndrome. Medscape.com. Released Sept 18, 2002.

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Impaired glucose is defined as having a fasting blood sugar of between 110mg/dl and 125mg/dl, or by having an abnormal 3 hour glucose tolerance test.

In addition, the present invention applies to the  
10 use of the specific diet, with or without antifungal substances, in combination or singularly, in the prevention and treatment, whether complementary to or in place of traditional medical therapies, of multiple sclerosis, another disease of unknown etiology.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

**Diabetes and fungal infections**

It has long been recognized that fungal and yeast infections are more common in a diabetic person. In fact, in the past scientists were able to identify those at risk for diabetes by noting their propensity to suffer from recurrent yeast and fungal infections. (Wilson, JW, Plunkett, OA., The Fungous Diseases of Man, University of California Press., Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London 1970). However, conventional teachings still maintain that diabetes creates the predisposition for fungal infections. Based on the available scientific literature, the fungus - or a fungal metabolite - is actually the predisposing factor for the development of diabetes.

An in-depth look at the diabetes epidemic, fungi, and mycotoxins is offered in the book Infectious Diabetes. (Kaufmann, D., MediaTriton, Inc. 2003).

**The history of diabetes and fungus**

**(Dr. A.V. Costantini's 1994 lecture in Canada)**

1788 Whytt: Observed that diabetes mellitus (DM) and gout go hand in hand.

5       Observation: Polynesians have a very high rate of diabetes, gout, obesity and atherosclerosis. The Polynesians are known to consume large quantities of a product called "Poi." Some of the men consume 10-20 pounds of Poi per day. Poi is a fermented fruit  
10 concoction consisting of yeast-fermented bananas and breadfruit.

1954 Griffits: Uric acid produces DM in animals.

1963 Svlhia: *Sacchromyces* yeast produce uric acid.

1990 Coleman: Mice fed a 10% brewer's yeast diet  
15 developed DM.

1976 Isogai (Tokyo, Japan): *Cryptococcus* fungi were found in the islets of Langerhans cells (pancreas) in two children who died from DM. The researchers in later studies injected *Cryptococcus* into the pancreatic artery  
20 of laboratory animals and induced necrosis of the islets of langerhans. *Cryptococcus* is known to produce alloxan.

1980 Pojo: Alloxan, a uric acid metabolite, injures insulin-producing beta cells in the islets of Langerhans of the pancreas.

1990 Chase: Type I DM could be cured if treated 5 with cyclosporin A. within four months of onset of the disease.

1990 Moody: Cyclosporin A, a fungal poison and pharmaceutical drug, is antifungal against *Cryptococcus*.

1981 Hayes: Streptozotocin induces experimental DM 10 in animals. Hayes points out that Streptozotocin is a mycotoxin produced by *Streptomyces achromogenes* mold.

1981 Helgason: ingestion of cured mutton, a holiday dish, by Icelandic women at the time of conception caused DM in their offspring.

15 1973 Esher: Cured mutton contains ochratoxin, sterigmatocystin, patulin, and penicillic acid- all fungal mycotoxins.

1990 Raha: L-asparaginase (fungally produced) induces DM in experimental animals.

## Recent findings associating diet and fungal toxins with diabetes

Two separate studies, one in the United States and the other in Germany, conclude that feeding infants cereals early in life significantly increases the infants' risk of developing type 1 diabetes later in life:

Timing of Initial Cereal Exposure in Infancy and  
Risk of Islet Autoimmunity - Jill M. Norris,  
10 Katherine Barriga, Georgeanna Klingensmith,  
Michelle Hoffman, George S. Eisenbarth, Henry A.  
Erlich, and Marian Rewers - JAMA. 2003;290:1713-  
1720.

15 Early Infant Feeding and Risk of Developing Type 1  
Diabetes-Associated Autoantibodies - Anette-G.  
Ziegler, MD; Sandra Schmid, PhD; Doris Huber;  
Michael Hummel, MD; Ezio Bonifacio, PhD. -  
*JAMA*. 2003;290:1721-1728.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDIES

- Context: Dietary factors modifying type 1 diabetes mellitus (DM) risk have been proposed, but little is known if they trigger the islet autoimmunity that precedes clinical disease.
- Objective: To determine whether breastfeeding duration, food supplementation, or age at introduction of gluten-containing foods influences the risk of developing islet autoantibodies.
- Design and Setting: Prospective natural history cohort study conducted from 1989 to 2003 in inpatient/outpatient clinics in Germany.
- Participants: The BABYDIAB study follows newborn children of parents with type 1 DM. Eligibility requirements were met in 1610 children. Blood samples were obtained at birth, age 9 months, 2, 5, and 8 years. Dropout rate was 14.4% by age 5 years. Breastfeeding data were obtained by prospective questionnaires (91% complete), and

food supplementation data were obtained by family interview (72% for food supplementation and 80% for age of gluten introduction).

- Main Outcome Measure: Development of islet autoantibodies (insulin, glutamic acid decarboxylase, or IA-2 antibodies) in 2 consecutive blood samples.
- Results: Life-table islet autoantibody frequency was 5.8% (SE, 0.6%) by age 5 years. Reduced total or exclusive breastfeeding duration did not significantly increase the risk of developing islet autoantibodies. Food supplementation with gluten-containing foods before age 3 months, however, was associated with significantly increased islet autoantibody risk (adjusted hazard ratio, 4.0; 95% confidence interval, 1.4-11.5;  $P = .01$  vs children who received only breast milk until age 3 months). Four of 17 children who received gluten-containing foods before age 3 months developed islet autoantibodies (life-table 5-year risk, 24%; SE,

10%). All 4 children had the high-risk DRB1\*03/04, DQB1\*0302 genotype.

Gluten-containing foods are such grains as wheat,  
5 rye, barley and oats. Wheat, rye, and barley are commonly-contaminated with fungal mycotoxins. (Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4): 425-427, Jan. 23/30, 2002; Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: 10 Risks in Plant, Animal and Human Systems, Task Force Report No. 139, Ames, Iowa, Jan 2003).

Antibodies are immune-system protein structures that are made by the human body's B-cells of the immune system and that are directed against foreign chemicals  
15 and germs in our body. Auto-antibodies are antibodies that are directed—supposedly by mistake—against the human body's tissues, organs, and cells. Conventional medicine claims that this is an abnormal response by they human body, and the manifested condition is called  
20 an auto-immune disease. If, however, a mycotoxin that preferentially attacks the islet cell in the pancreas is able to alter that pancreatic cell (i.e., the cell is

now chemically tainted), then the human body will see that cell as foreign, or at least abnormal. Hence, an immune attack against that abnormal, chemically infected cell is, in this case, a normal response by our immune system, not an abnormal, auto-immune phenomenon.

**Fungal toxin in potato scab causes type 1 diabetes**

A common toxin found in the potato scab in root vegetables is linked to type 1 diabetes:

- Bafilomycin, a macrolide antibiotic (mycotoxin) made by the *Streptomyces griseus* mold and found in the black, scab lesions on root vegetables (especially potatoes) caused diabetes in 100% of the offspring of mother mice who were fed this toxin. ([www.onenews.nzoom.com](http://www.onenews.nzoom.com), citing a study by Paul Zimmet et al., June 2003, director of the International Diabetes Institute in Melbourne, Australia).
- Bafilomycin is a heat-stable fungal toxin that cannot be destroyed in the cooking process.

**The fungus/mycotoxin association with type 2 diabetes**

Aspergillus and Penicillium fungi are common contaminants of peanuts and corn. (The Council For Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: Risks in Platnt, Animal, and Human Systems, Task Force Report No. 139, Jan, 2003, Ames, IA). They make mycotoxins such as ochratoxin, patulin, and aflatoxin.

The effects of Ochratoxin in mammals:

- It prevents mammalian cells from breaking down sugar normally so that the levels of sugar in the blood remain high. It also creates insulin resistance, which leads to the high blood sugar levels seen in type 2 diabetes. (Verma, R. , Shalini, M., Hyperglycemia induced in rabbits exposed to ochratoxin, Bull Environ Contam Toxicol, 1998 Apr., 60(4):626-31; Subramanian, S., et al., Ochratoxin A toxicity on carbohydrate metabolism in rats, Bull Environ Contam Toxicol, 1989 Aug., 43(2):180-4; Huff, WE, et al., Decreased glycogen mobilization during ochratoxicosis in broiler chickens, Appl Environ Microbiol, 1979 Jan., 37(1):122-6; Suzuki, S. et

al., Effect of ochratoxin A on carbohydrate metabolism in rat liver, *Toxicol Appl Pharmacol*, 1975 Apr., 32(1):116-22; Szczech, GM, et al., Ochratoxicosis in Beagle dogs, I. Clinical and 5 clinicopathological features, *Vet Pathol*. 1973, 10(2):135-54).

- It also causes kidney damage, a very common occurrence in diabetes. (CAST 2003, Rodricks 1977).

10 The effects of Patulin in mammals:

- A common contaminant of apple juice and processed, apple products (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: Risks in Plant, Animal, and Human Systems, Task Force Report 139, Jan 2003.)

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- It inhibits human cells from using oxygen normally (inhibits aerobic respiration). (Rodricks, J., Mycotoxin in Human and Animal Health, Pathotox Publishers, Inc., Park Forest South, IL., 1977., p 613).

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- Human cells cannot live without oxygen, but fungi with anaerobic metabolism capacities can. Thus,

mycotoxin exposure can create an environment that favors fungi in the human body.

The effects of Aflatoxin B1 in mammals:

- Found in mold-contaminated corn, wheat, peanuts and other grains. (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: Risks in Plant, Animal, and Human Systems, Task Force Report 139, Jan 2003; Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4), Jan 23/30, 2002).
- It blocks the breakdown of sugar in the liver as well as the sugar in other cells in the human body, again resulting in high levels of blood sugar that human cells cannot use. (Cheeke, P.R., Natural Toxicants in Feeds, Forages, and Poisonous Plants, 1998, Interstate Publishers, Inc., Danville, IL). This, in turn, creates the perfect environment for fungi, which preferentially feed on sugars/carbohydrates.

**Other mycotoxins and their association with type 1 and type 2 diabetes**

*Streptozotocin*

- Aside from causing type 1 diabetes by destroying the cells in the pancreas, it also "causes insulin resistance" in human cells—the very definition of type 2 diabetes.  
5 (Samiec, P.S., et al., Glutathione in human plasma: Decline in association with aging, age-related macular degeneration, and diabetes, Free Radic. Biol. Med., Mar 15/24(5): 699-704, 1998; Szkudelski, T., The mechanism of alloxan and streptozotocin action in B cells of the rat pancreas, Physiol res. 10 2001, 50(6):537-46; Streptozotocin: CAS No. 18883-66-4, Ninth Report on Carcinogens, US Dept of HHS, Public Health Service, National Toxicology Program., Revised Jan 2001).

*Alloxan*

- Alloxan is an oxidation product of uric acid. Uric acid is made by, among other organisms, fungi. (Helbig, F. et al., Uric acid is a

genuine metabolite of *Penicillium cyclopium*  
and stimulates the expression of alkaloid  
biosynthesis in this fungus, Applied and  
Environmental Microbiology, April 2002. P.

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1524-1533, Vol. 68, No. 4, Jan 2002).

- Injection of animals with alloxan causes type 1 diabetes via destruction of the beta cells in the pancreas. (Wallace, A., Principles and methods of toxicology, Raven Press, New York, 1989., p. 694; Moneim, A., et al., Effects of Nigella Sativa, fish oil and gliclazide on alloxan diabetic rats 1- Biochemical and histopathological studies, J. Egypt., Ger. Soc. Zool., Vol. 23(A), 237-265, 1997).
- Alloxan also causes insulin resistance, characteristic of type 2 diabetes. (Ader, M, et al., Evidence for direct action of alloxan to induce insulin resistance at the cellular level, Diabetologia. 1998 Nov, 41(11):1327-36).
- In addition, injection of animals with alloxan can cause elevated serum cholesterol,

triglyceride, and total lipid levels.

(Moneim, A., et al., Effects of Nigella Sativa, fish oil and gliclazide on alloxan diabetic rats 1- Biochemical and histopathological studies, J. Egypt, Ger. Soc. Zool., Vol 23(A), 237-265, 1997; Szkudelski, T., The mechanism of alloxan and streptozotocin action in B cells of the rat pancreas, Physiol Res., 2001, 50(6):537-46).

10 *Oxalic acid*

- Oxalic acid is a harsh chemical found in small quantities in certain plants. Aspergillus

fungi, however, can liberate large quantities 15 of oxalic acid during an infection (a so-called fungus ball) in a human lung. (Kibbler,

CC., Principles and Practice of Clinical Mycology, John Wiley and Sons, Ltd., West Sussex, England, 1996).

- Oxalic acid can cause death in mammals by inhibiting carbohydrate metabolism in animals.

20 (Wallace, A., Principles and methods of

toxicology, Raven Press, New York, 1989, p.

694).

**Conventional and alternative treatment of type 2**

**5 diabetes: sulfa drugs and over the counter supplements**

Sulfa-based, oral diabetic drugs (glypizide, glyburide, etc.)

- Per the drug information listed in Physician's Desk References, scientists are not fully sure why sulfa-based prescription diabetes medicines lower blood sugar. Their action cannot solely be explained by increasing the output of insulin.
- Since diabetes is caused by fungi and their mycotoxins, sulfa drugs help lower blood sugar in type 2 diabetes in part because they are antifungal. (Large, E.C., The Advance of the Fungi, p44., Dover publications, New York, NY, 1962).
- Chromium, Garlic, and other over-the-counter supplements found to be helpful in type 2 diabetes also have documented antifungal

activity. (Costantini, AV., Fungalbionics Series. Etiology and Prevention of Atherosclerosis, Johann Friedrich Oberlin Verlag, Freiburg, Germany, ISBN 3-930939-04-5, 5 1996).

**The metabolic syndrome, fungi and their associated mycotoxins**

Formerly known as "Syndrome-X," the metabolic 10 syndrome is not always associated with being overweight. In fact, 18% of people with the metabolic syndrome in one study were classified as having normal body weight, and 67% were obese. (Marchesini, G., et al., Nonalcoholic fatty liver, steatohepatitis, and the metabolic syndrome, Hepatology, 2003 April, 37(4):917-23). Nevertheless, obesity is one of the most common findings in this condition. Other, diagnostic criteria for Metabolic Syndrome are as follows:

One must have 3 out of the following 5 conditions:

20 • Abdominal obesity (waist circumference greater than 40 inches in men or greater than 35 inches in women).

- Hypertriglyceridemia (triglyceride level greater than or equal to 150mg/dl).

- Low HDL-Cholesterol (greater than 40mg/dl in men or greater than 50mg/dl in women).

5           • High blood pressure (greater than or equal to 130/85).

- High fasting glucose (Impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) - fasting blood sugar between 110 and 126mg/dl) (Blackburn, G, et al., The

10           Obesity Epidemic: Prevention and Treatment of  
                  the Metabolic Syndrome, Medscape.com,  
                  Released Sept 18, 2002).

Pursuant to these criteria, about 47 million Americans have the Metabolic Syndrome. That means that  
15 one in four Americans are living with this cluster of signs and symptoms. The etiology of the Metabolic Syndrome has been elusive, but is currently attributed to "improper nutrition and inadequate physical activity." (Blackburn, G, et al., The Obesity Epidemic:  
20           Prevention and Treatment of the Metabolic Syndrome, Medscape.com, Released Sept 18, 2002). Not surprisingly, every single component of this syndrome can be reversed

by weight loss. (Blackburn, G, et al., The Obesity Epidemic: Prevention and Treatment of the Metabolic Syndrome, Medscape.com, Released Sept 18, 2002).

The obesity epidemic is flourishing in the face of  
5 our current medical-society-based and government-established food plans, thereby creating questions about the validity or appropriateness of those food plans. Naturally, food plans cannot be solely to blame for these epidemics. Therefore, it is the wrong food plan,  
10 along with a sedentary lifestyle, poor snack choices, and over-consumption of antibiotics, that is to blame for these epidemics of obesity and the metabolic syndrome.

The twofold reason why carbohydrates are the wrong food to place at the foundation of the current, popular food plans is that (1) they are easily converted into fats (Harper, et al., Review of Physiological Chemistry, 16<sup>th</sup> ed., Los Altos, California, 1977) and, (2) they are commonly contaminated with disease-causing mycotoxins.  
15 (Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4), Jan 23/30, 2002). In the ideal world, grains could be a safe choice for a staple food.

But the facts remain that ours is an inactive society. Individuals are not burning off the grains that are consumed, and grains are a stored and processed product. Storing and processing grains (along with droughts and 5 floods) increases the risks of mycotoxin contamination. Even the seeds used to plant new crops can be contaminated with mycotoxin-producing fungi, so planting one's own garden does not avoid the inevitable exposure to fungi in certain grain-bearing plants. This is the 10 case with corn and corn kernels used to plant new crops. Luckily, rice and oats are less prone to fungal contamination and, as such, they are perhaps better choices for staple grains.

15 **Fatty liver disease and its association with mycotoxins**

Abnormally elevated liver enzymes or fatty deposits in the liver are not part of the criteria for diagnosing metabolic syndrome. Nevertheless, a majority of people (73%) with the metabolic syndrome have what's called 20 nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH). Whether one has the metabolic syndrome or not, if one's liver enzymes are elevated on a blood test, a doctor will be able to

determine whether NASH or some other, infectious agent is responsible for the rise in liver enzymes (AST, or SGOT, and ALT, or SGPT).

Essentially, NASH describes a liver that is 5 inflamed and full of fatty deposits, similar to what might happen if one drinks an abundance of alcohol over long periods of time. Only, in NASH, alcohol is not part of the picture. NASH can progress to severe, fatal liver disease over many years. NASH results in cirrhosis 10 (irreversible scarring, like that seen in kidney failure) in 20-25% of patients who have it and liver-related deaths in 8-15% of patients. (Resnick, R., Chopra, S., Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis: A common hepatic disorder, Family Practice Recertification, Vol 15 24, No. 9., Aug 2002). And just as diabetes and hypertension are fueling a culture of people with kidney failure, the huge number of people with metabolic syndrome is going to give rise to a large population of people with liver failure in the next 10 or 20 years- 20 unless a cause and, therefore, treatment, can be identified. (Marchesini, G., et al., Nonalcoholic fatty

liver, steatohepatitis, and the metabolic syndrome,  
Hepatology, 2003 April, 37(4):917-23).

The etiology of fatty liver in overweight individuals remains "yet to be determined," though it is suspected to have something to do with insulin resistance. (Russo, M., Jacobson, I., Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, Hospital Physician, Nov 2002). The etiology has already been determined. For example, aflatoxin, the *Aspergillus* fungal toxin, is known to cause fatty liver, hepatitis, and fibrosis (scarring) in humans and animals. (CAST, Mycotoxins: Risks in plant, animal, and human systems, Task Force Report No. 139, Jan 2003, Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Ames, IA). Ochratoxin, made by *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* fungi, also causes fatty liver in humans and animals. (Class course in Advanced Food Microbiology, Microbial foodborne pathogens, <http://class.fst.ohio-state.edu/fst736/sect4.htm>. June 2003; Rodricks, J., et al., Mycotoxins in Human and Animal Health. Pathotox Publishers, Inc., Park Forest South, IL, 1977, p. 492). In addition, mycotoxins such as streptozotocin induce a state of insulin resistance.

(ID TNO Animal Nutrition, Diabetic pig characterized by hepatic and cellular insulin-resistance,

[http://www.id.dlo.nl/ID-Lelystad/documenten/flyers/IDTNO\\_22.0701\\_koopmans\\_uk.pdf](http://www.id.dlo.nl/ID-Lelystad/documenten/flyers/IDTNO_22.0701_koopmans_uk.pdf)).

These facts are only relevant if, in fact, people  
5 were consuming mycotoxins in small quantities - as food  
contaminants and prescriptive antibiotics - on a regular  
basis. Scientists have already established that this  
is, indeed, the case. (CAST, Mycotoxins: Risks in plant,  
animal, and human systems, Task force report No. 139,  
10 Jan 2003, Council for Agricultural Science and  
Technology, Ames, IA; Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of*  
*the American Medical Association*, 287(4): 425-427, Jan  
23/30, 2002).

In addition, in a biopsy a liver with nonalcoholic-  
15 related fatty changes looks "almost identical" to that  
of a liver damaged by alcohol abuse. (Kichian, K., et  
al., Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in patients  
investigated for elevated liver enzymes, *Canadian*  
*Journal of Gastroenterology*, 2003 Jan, 17(1):38-42).  
20 And alcohol is but a mycotoxin made by the yeast  
*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, i.e., brewer's yeast.

Ours is a population of people who are obediently following their grain-based dietary recommendations and taking loads of unnecessary antibiotics (most of which are fungal by-products themselves), while at the same 5 time they are developing classic symptoms of mycotoxin exposure. But instead of calling the disease what it most likely is - a mycotoxicosis - it is called NASH, or metabolic syndrome, or any other of a dozen unknown etiology diseases.

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**Kidney damage/chronic and acute renal insufficiency and mycotoxins**

Nearly a quarter of all adults over the age of 45 have some form of chronic, renal insufficiency. 15 (Jancin, B., Chronic Renal Insufficiency Strikes 23% of Adults, *Family Practice News*, June 1, 2002).

Folmer Elling has a full chapter dedicated to the "Morphological Aspects of Mycotoxic Nephropathy" in a book covering the ill effects of mycotoxins in humans. 20 In it, he describes the renal-toxic effects of ochratoxin, a toxin produced by *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* species of molds. (Rodricks, J., et al.,

Mycotoxins in Human and Animal Health, Proceedings of a conference on mycotoxins in human and animal health, pp. 499-506, Pathotox publishers, Park Forest South, IL. 1977).

5       Ochratoxin has been documented to cause kidney damage in all animal species tested thus far. Ochratoxin is suspected to cause Endemic Nephropathy, also known as "Balkan," or "IgA" nephropathy, a form of kidney failure seen in central Europe where ochratoxin  
10      has been found in high levels in the food supply. In one random sampling 56% of Germans had detectable levels of ochratoxin in their bloodstream. Ochratoxin, an unregulated mycotoxin in the United States, is typically found in barley, corn, wheat, oats, rye, green coffee beans, and peanuts. (Bray, G., Ryan, D., eds., Pennington Center Nutrition Series, Volume 1: Mycotoxins, Diabetes and Health, p. 42-43; Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: Economic and Health Risks, Task Force Report Number 116,  
15      20      p.35. November 1989, CAST, Ames, IA).

IgA nephropathy is the most common cause of glomerulonephritis, or kidney disease, in the world.

(Council for Agricultural Science and Technology,  
Mycotoxins: Economic and Health Risks, Task Force Report  
Number 116, p.35, November 1989, CAST, Ames, IA). A  
*Fusarium* mold toxin known as deoxynivalenol, of the  
5 trichothecene group of toxins, causes accumulation of  
the antibody IgA in the filtering areas (called  
glomeruli) of the kidneys in mice, identical to the  
pathologic process seen in Balkan Nephropathy in humans.  
(Council for Agricultural Science and Technology,  
10 Mycotoxins: Economic and Health Risks, Task Force Report  
Number 116, p.35, November 1989, CAST, Ames, IA). The  
overactive immune response to the mycotoxin in the  
kidneys leads to permanent damage.

The trichothecene mycotoxins are 40 times more  
15 toxic when inhaled than when consumed in contaminated  
foods. (Peraica, M., et al., Toxic Effects of  
Mycotoxins in Humans, Bulletin of the World Health  
Organization, WHO website, 1999). One case study  
documented kidney failure (acute renal failure) caused  
20 by inhaled mycotoxins. A farmer developed kidney failure  
after she had been working in a granary containing  
*Aspergillus ochraceus*-infected wheat. The mold

*Aspergillus ochraceus* makes ochratoxin, and wheat that is infected with this mold liberates ochratoxin into the air, which can be harmful if inhaled, especially in an enclosed area like a grain silo. The kidney biopsy on

5 the farmer showed characteristic acute tubular necrosis (ATN) and "minimal change" lesions, which are certain tissue changes seen in the biopsy of a failed kidney. She recovered slowly and fully, needing only temporary dialysis in the hospital following avoidance of the

10 toxin.

Because streptozotocin causes diabetes, it is interesting that exposure to this same chemical, marketed under the name Zanosar®, can lead to "severe" or even "fatal kidney disease" in humans. (Physicians' 15 Desk Reference, 48<sup>th</sup> edition, Medical Economics Data Production Company, Montvale, NJ, 1994; Ishikawa, A., et al., Mechanism of cyclosporin induced nephrotoxicity, Transpl Proc., 31:1127-1128, 1999). It is directly toxic to the kidneys and can lead to tissue 20 damage, similar to the damage in the pancreas that leads to diabetes in experimental animals.

Cyclosporin-A, a fungal byproduct from the *Tolypocladium inflatum* fungus (Turner, G., Exploitation of fungal secondary metabolites old and new, Microbiology Today, Vol. 27, August, 2000) is classified 5 as a macrolide antibiotic, although it is not used as an antimicrobial in humans. Erythromycin, clarithromycin, and azithromycin are also macrolide antibiotics. Cyclosporin-A, however, is used for the purpose of suppressing the human body's immune system so that it 10 will not reject a foreign, transplanted organ. It is a known vasoconstrictor, or a substance that constricts blood vessels. Because of its action, almost 100% of the time, persons receiving therapeutic doses of cyclosporin-A will develop hypertension. (Cifkova, R., 15 Haller, H., Cyclosporin-induced hypertension, European Society of Hypertension Scientific Newsletter, 2001, 2:No. 8).

Constricting blood vessels, similar to squeezing a hose, also leads to altered perfusion through the 20 kidneys. The kidneys normally help to regulate blood pressure in the body through the action of their various hormones and fluid balance mechanisms that are put into

play, in part, based on the amount of blood flow that they receive. When this blood flow is artificially altered by this mycotoxin, the kidneys, sensing a decrease in blood flow, can be stimulated to increase 5 the blood pressure in the body. Over time, chronic oxygen and nutrient deprivation, caused by lack of blood flow, can lead to organ damage.

**Nerve damage/neuropathy seen in diabetes, and its  
10 association with fungi/mycotoxins**

A disturbing problem that patients with long-standing diabetes often encounter is that of nerve damage. If a person has had diabetes for 10 or 20 years, then they will likely suffer from numbness, 15 tingling, burning sensations, or pain in various parts of the body. The legs are often most frequently affected, but hands and internal organs can be affected as well. Digestion and intestinal mobility problems can occur if the nerves to the stomach or intestines are 20 damaged. When this happens, the nerves can no longer stimulate the muscles of the intestines to move food along through the stomach and digestive tract, so

intestinal blockage becomes a serious problem. Nausea and vomiting may be a symptom of this problem (called gastroparesis). Impotence can arise in males that can also happen as a result of damage to the delicate nerves  
5 of the genital area.

Other various symptoms of nerve damage may include dizziness, diarrhea or constipation, wasting of the muscles in the arms or legs, difficulty urinating, loss of balance and generalized weakness. (InteliHealth.com,  
10 Diabetic Neuropathy: The Nerve Damage of Diabetes, Dec. 2002).

Burning feet and legs is a common complaint of people with diabetic nerve damage. This can result either from the lack of blood supply to the legs or  
15 direct damage to the nerve by a mycotoxin. Gliotoxin, a fungal poison produced by *Aspergillus*, *Candida*, *Gliocladium* and *Penicillium* fungal species, is extremely toxic to cells and nerves in very small concentrations. (Forsby, et. al., Cellular Neurotoxicology,  
20 Neurochem.su.se., 25 Nov., 2002). *Fusarium* and *Aspergillus* mold toxins called fumonisins are neurotoxic (can damage nerves) and are "universally present in corn

and corn-based products." (Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, Journal of the American Medical Association, 287(4), 425-427, Jan 23/30, 2002). Simply put, "mycotoxins can cause nerve damage." (Byrd, B., Food Safety: An International Public Health Issue, The International Electronic Journal of Health Education, Dec. 2002, ISSN: 1529-1944).

Some other references to the fungal toxin-nerve damage link are as follows: the mycotoxin citreo-viridin causes nerve paralysis. Maltoryzine, an *Aspergillus* toxin causes muscle paralysis. Patulin (commonly found in processed apple products) causes nerve damage also. (Kemin.com, Kemin Americas, Inc., The Control of Mold and Mycotoxins in Ruminant Foods, Dec. 2002). These studies have been done on farm and laboratory animals, but the medical literature has already documented the mycotoxin contamination of human foods. Alcohol, in its various beverage forms, is also toxic to nerves. (O'Connor, R., Alcoholic Neuropathy, [www.EMedicine.com](http://www.EMedicine.com), Dec. 2002). In people the type of nerve damage that alcohol can cause is very, very similar to that seen in diabetes: numbness primarily in the legs, muscle

weakness and muscle wasting, and imbalance problems, among other things. Mycotoxins, plain and simple, damage nerves.

##### **5 Cataracts, retinopathy, diabetes, and fungi/mycotoxin**

Cataracts are more common and occur at an earlier age in people with diabetes. (<http://www.uihealthcare.com/topics/diabetes/diab4401.html>, Feb. 2004). Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is the leading 10 cause of preventable blindness in the United States. The reason for the development of cataracts in diabetes is felt to be the accumulation of sorbitol (a type of sugar) in the lens of the eyes, which then causes an osmotic pressure gradient, favoring the eyes, which 15 leads to lens damage. In DR, the cause is essentially unknown. But it is known that the onset of retinopathy in diabetes parallels the onset of kidney disease. Both organs are rich in tiny, delicate blood vessels. A toxin that affects blood vessels would seem to attack 20 the smallest vessels first. Given that mycotoxins are involved in causing type 1 and type 2 diabetes,

mycotoxins are able to cause both cataracts and retinopathy as well.

In both high and low doses, zearalenone, a *Fusarium* mould toxin, causes retinopathy and cataracts in male 5 and female rats. (NTP Technical Report on the Carcinogenesis Bioassay of Zearalenone, CAS No. 17924-92-4, In F344/N Rats and B6C3F1 Mice (feed study), National Toxicology Program, NIH Publication No. 83-1791, US Dept of Health and Human Services, Oct. 1982).

10 In addition, supplements, such as Vitamin C, that exhibit antifungal activity seem also to protect against the cataractogenesis property of mycotoxins. (Kikic, F, Trevithick, JR., Vitamin C reduces cytochalasin D cataractogenesis, Curr Eye Res, 1995 Oct, 14(10):943-9).

15 Cytochalasin D, the mycotoxin studied in this case, is a by-product of the mould, *Zygosporium mansonii*, (Cytochalasin D, Zygosporium mansonii, A.G. Scientific, Inc., <http://www.agscientific.com/Item/C1070.htm>., Feb. 2004.) and is known to produce abnormal corneal changes 20 in human corneal tissue. (Kim, EK, et al., Corneal endothelial cytoskeletal changes in F-actin with aging,

diabetes and after cytochalasin exposure., Am J Ophthalmol, 1992 Sept 15. 114(3):329-35).

Inflammation, heart disease, atherosclerosis, diabetes,  
5 and fungi/mycotoxins: (see Infectious Diabetes, original  
printing, 2003. Chapter 12, pp 107-110; Chapter 15, pp  
127-134)

Hypertension, diabetes, and fungi/mycotoxins: (see  
10 Infectious Diabetes, original printing, 2003; Chapter  
14, pp 123-124)

Heart failure/congestive heart failure, diabetes, and  
fungi/mycotoxins: (see Infectious Diabetes, original  
15 printing, 2003; Chapter 135, pp 135-140)

Strokes/cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, and  
fungi/mycotoxins: (see Infectious Diabetes, original  
printing, 2003; Chapter 17, pp 141-143)

20

Pregnancy-related diabetes and fungi/mycotoxins: (see  
Infectious Diabetes, original printing, 2003; Chapter 8,

**pp 67-76). In addition: "Fungal toxin in potato scab causes Type 1 diabetes"**

A common toxin found in the potato scab in root vegetables is linked to Type 1 diabetes:

5           Bafilomycin, a macrolide antibiotic (a mycotoxin) made by the *Streptomyces griseus* mold and found in the black, scab lesions on root vegetables (especially potatoes) caused diabetes in 100% of the offspring of mother mice who were fed this  
10           toxin. ([www.onenews.nzoom.com](http://www.onenews.nzoom.com), citing a study by Paul Zimmet et al., June 2003, director of the International Diabetes Institute in Melbourne, Australia). Bafilomycin is a heat-stable fungal toxin that cannot be destroyed in the cooking  
15           process.

**Obesity, diabetes, and fungi/mycotoxins/fungal growth promoters: (see Kaufmann, D. "What Makes Bread Rise," Mediatriation, Inc. Rockwall, TX. 2004).**

20           **Multiple sclerosis and fungi/mycotoxins**

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is characterized by destruction of the protective sheath- called the myelin

sheath- around nerves in the brain and the spinal cord. As a result, the transmission of nerve impulses to other nerves, muscles, and vital organs is interrupted. This impaired nerve function translates into symptoms such as

5 difficulty in walking, abnormal "pins and needles" sensations throughout the body, pain, and loss of vision due to inflammation of the optic nerve, tremors, incoordination, paralysis, and impaired thinking and memory. (Nationalmssociety.org, Sept. 2002). In

10 addition, muscle wasting, bladder dysfunction, fatigue, osteoporosis, and a host of other problems can develop either directly or indirectly due to this nerve damage.

Although there is a genetic predisposition toward MS, as proven in studies of twins, only a third of those

15 that are genetically susceptible will get MS, indicating there is still an outside factor involved. (Murray, J., Infection as a cause of multiple sclerosis: theories abound because no one knows the answer yet, Editorials, British Medical Journal, Vol 325:1128, Nov. 16, 2002).

20 MS is more common in those born and raised above the 37<sup>th</sup> parallel (a line extending from Newport News, VA to Santa Cruz, CA); however, if a person moves to an

area of low risk (i.e. below the 40<sup>th</sup> parallel) prior to adolescence, they assume the lower risk of their new location. These last points support the idea of an environmental exposure link to the disease.

5       As outside causes are to blame, then Oppenheim, an early 1900's researcher, was close in his assertion that MS is caused by an environmental toxin. Other researchers of his day thought that there was a defect in the blood vessels or in the glial tissues. Pierre  
10    Marie, in the late 1800's, thought that MS was caused by an infectious agent. However, despite all of the "infection" theories that have been tested over the past 150 plus years, not one - whether bacteria, virus, Chlamydia or scrapie-like agent - has proven to be the  
15    culprit.

         Mycotoxins are chemicals made by fungi. They are found in grains that have been contaminated with fungi and mold. Some mycotoxins are used for medicinal purposes. Antibiotics, such as penicillin and the  
20    cephalosporin drugs, are fungal metabolites - they are mycotoxins. Alcohol is a mycotoxin. Aflatoxin, the most carcinogenic substance on earth, is a mycotoxin.

The most food sources of these mycotoxins are peanuts, corn, alcoholic beverages, and wheat. Often, other foods such as barley, apples, sorghum and rye can be sources as well.

5 Some mycotoxins are produced in our body by the yeast in our intestines or vaginal tract. In one study, 3 women severely symptomatic for vaginal candidiasis were found to have vaginal fluid samples with significant levels of a mycotoxin called gliotoxin.

10 (Shah, D.T, et al., In situ mycotoxin production by Candida albicans in women with vaginitis, *Gynecol. Obstet. Invest.*, 1995, 39(1):67-9). Exposure to mycotoxins in the environment has several causes: ingestion, inhalation, skin contact, etc. Once inside

15 the body these mycotoxins damage nerves.

It is known that in MS there is a loss of molecules called sphingolipids from the white matter in the central nervous system. (Harper, Review of Physiological Chemistry, 16th ed., 1977). It is not well-known that mycotoxins can actually disrupt sphingolipid biosynthesis. (Miller-Hjelle, PKD: An unrecognized emerging infectious disease? *Emerging*

infectious diseases, 3(2):113-127, 1997, CDC).

Specifically, gliotoxin, as mentioned above, can induce nerve cell death (apoptosis), albeit on a slightly larger scale.

5       Gliotoxin is a heat stable chemical made by *Aspergillus*, *Candida*, and other species of fungi. Not coincidentally, scientists have recovered a *heat stable toxin* from the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of MS patients. In this particular study, the scientists took the CSF  
10 from MS patients, heat-treated it to destroy any infectious germs, and then exposed it to nerve cells in a laboratory culture. What ensued was death of these nerve cells. The scientists called this heat-stable toxin "gliotoxin."

15       The source of gliotoxin appears to be, again, primarily from the yeast and fungi within the human body. As such, gliotoxin is less important as an agricultural scourge than are other mycotoxins such as fumonisins, made by *Fusarium* and *Aspergillus* fungi, and  
20 the penitrem D toxin made by *Penicillium crustosum*. Fumonisins are a group of mycotoxins that happen to be neurotoxic as well as carcinogenic. They are

"universally present in corn and corn-based products." (Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4): 425-427, Jan. 23/30, 2002).

Penitrem mycotoxins are found in things such as moldy 5 apple products. Penetrem D can cause tremors, convulsions, limb weakness, and ataxis (unsteady gait), "not unlike the symptoms observed in MS." ([www.Iserloh.com/penitrem.html](http://www.Iserloh.com/penitrem.html), July 2003).

As there are different classes of MS (chronic 10 progressive, relapsing-remitting, etc.) it might be that the different presentations of MS are being caused by different classes of mycotoxins. In addition, the regional differences in the prevalence of MS can be explained by the particular agricultural products that 15 dominate the most affected areas. For example, the part of America that lies above the 37<sup>th</sup> parallel also happens to encompass the corn belt. As previously stated, corn is universally contaminated with mycotoxins. (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: 20 Risks in Plant, Animal, and Human System, Task Force Report 139, Jan 2003, Ames, IA). This area is also represented by much of the wheat belt. This is more than

just a coincidence. It supports the hypothesis that exposure to an environmental toxin causes MS.

Regarding past and up-to-date treatments for MS, none of the current, conventional, pharmaceutical therapies offer a "cure." (http://www.mercola.com/2003/mar/5/ms\_drugs.htm, Feb. 2004). In recent trials, statin drugs (cholesterol-lowering drugs) have, at least, proven effective in slowing the progression of MS. (Bouchard, C., 10 Cholesterol drug may offer hope for MS patients, HealthScoutNews, April 2003; Edelson, E., Cholesterol drugs may treat multiple sclerosis, HealthScoutNews, Oct. 7, 2002; Verrengia, J., Statin drugs show M.S. promise, Associated press, Yahoo News, Nov 7, 2002). 15 Their effectiveness is not surprising, in light of the fungal/mycotoxin theory, because it is also known that statin drugs are antifungal. (Costantini, A.V., Fungalbionics Series: Etiology and Prevention of Atherosclerosis, Johann Freidrich Oberlin Verlag, 20 Freiburg, Germany, 1998/99).

It is also known that Vitamin D as well as sunlight can reduce mortality from and positively influence the

immune system in MS.

(http://www.mercola.com/2000/may/28/sunlight m s.htm;

http://www.mercola.com/2001/apr/25/vitamin d.htm, Feb.

2004). Other researchers have explained that the reason

5 why these work is, once again, Vitamin D, whether taken in the form of a cod liver oil supplement or made naturally by our body from sunlight exposure, is an anti-mycotoxin. (Costantini, A.V., Fungalbionics Series: Etiology and Prevention of Atherosclerosis,

10 Johann Freidrich Oberlin Verlag, Freiburg, Germany, 1998/99).

Finally, in regards to diet, a German researcher recently claimed that eating smoked sausage in childhood was responsible for causing multiple sclerosis later in

15 life. (Murphy, D., German researcher claims smoked sausage linked to multiple sclerosis, Meatingplace.com, Sept. 2002). Dr. A.V. Costantini, retired head of the World Health Organization's collaborating center for mycotoxins in food, has explained that smoked and aged

20 meats are very often contaminated with mycotoxins (Costantini, A., et al., Prevention of Breast Cancer: Hope at Last. Fungalbionic series, Freiburg, Germany,

1998). Many times this is due to the addition of fungally-contaminated spices in the meat. (Aziz, NM, Youssef, YA, Occurrence of aflatoxins and aflatoxin-producing moulds in fresh and processed meat in Egypt, 5 Food Addit Contam, 1991 May-Jun, 8(3):321-31). Thus the cause of MS, according to these and other researchers, is food-related.

In another study, mice with an MS-like condition exhibited fewer symptoms and decreased progression of 10 the illness when they were starved of their regular food rations.

([http://www.mercola.com/2003/feb/12/starvation\\_diet.htm](http://www.mercola.com/2003/feb/12/starvation_diet.htm), Feb. 2004). Starvation works because fewer foods taken in allow fewer mycotoxins to enter the body. Following 15 the standard food pyramid, which is a grain-based American diet, people consume on average between 0.15 to 0.5mg of aflatoxin per day. (Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4):425-427, Jan. 23/30, 2002). Aflatoxin is the 20 only regulated mycotoxin in America, so the level of exposure people have to the other, known mycotoxins in the diet disclosed herein is, at best, a guess. Thus,

starvation or calorie-restricting diets not only deprive people of calories, but also deprive people of disease-causing, carcinogenic mycotoxins.

As mycotoxins cause MS, there are a number of steps one must take to minimize exposure to fungi and their mycotoxins. A low carbohydrate diet must be followed. Since mycotoxins are commonly found in grain foods, (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, Mycotoxins: Risks in Plant, Animal, and Human Systems, 10 Task Force Report 139, Jan. 2003, Ames, IA; Etzel, R., Mycotoxins, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 287(4):425-427, Jan 23/30, 2002), it would be wise to minimize grains in one's diet. Secondly, people should minimize exposure to antibiotics. Antibiotics are, for 15 the most part, derived from fungi and are therefore classified as mycotoxins. And, antibiotics are a leading risk factor for the development of secondary (iatrogenic) fungal infections. (Kibbler, CC., Principles and Practice of Clinical Mycology, John Wiley and Sons, Ltd., West Sussex, England, 1996). Lastly, if 20 one has any obvious signs of a fungal infection in or on one's body - quite possibly, simply having MS might

qualify as an obvious sign (gliotoxin can be made by fungi and yeast that are already in the body, not necessarily by fungi that reside in contaminated foods)  
- one should take natural or prescriptive antifungals  
5 for a period of time.

**Example of a Low Carbohydrate/Low Mycotoxin/Anti-fungal**

**Diet**

10 **The initial phase diet (IDP)**

<b>Food Groups</b>	<b>Foods that are ALLOWED in the diet:</b>	<b>Foods that are EXCLUDED from the diet:</b>
1. Sugar	None (1)	All sugars should be excluded
2. Artificial or herbal sweeteners	Stevia, Stevia Plus	Aspartame, saccharin
3. Fruit	Green apples, berries, avocados grapefruit, lemons, limes	All others, including fruit juice
4. Meat	Fish, poultry, beef, etc. (2)	Breaded meats
5. Eggs	Yes, all eggs are allowed	Egg substitutes should be avoided
6. Dairy Products (3)	Yogurt (especially goat yogurt),	All others, including

		margarine and any butter substitute
	cream cheese, unsweetened whipping cream, sour cream made with real cream, butter	
7. Vegetables	Most fresh, unblemished vegetables and freshly-made vegetable juice (4)	Potatoes, legumes (beans and peas)
8. Beverages	Bottled or filtered water, non- fruity herb teas, fresh lemonade or limeade sweetened with Stevia	Coffee and tea (including decaf) Sodas (including diet sodas)
9. Grains	No grains are allowed  on the IPD	Pasta, rice, corn, wheat, quinoa, amaranth, millet, buckwheat, oats, barley
10. Yeast products	No yeast products are allowed  on the IPD	All are excluded, including bread, mushrooms, pastries, and alcoholic beverages
11. Vinegars	Unpasteurized apple cider vinegar, black olives not aged in vinegar	Pickles, salad dressings (5), green olives, soy sauce.
12. Oils	Olive, grape seed, flax seed, etc. Use cold-pressed	Partially- hydrogenated ("trans") oils, corn and

	when available	peanut oil
13. Nuts	Raw nuts, including pecans, almonds, walnuts, cashews, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, etc.	Peanuts (along with ALL peanut products) and pistachios are excluded.

- (1) Honey may occasionally and sparingly be used as a sweetener if needed.
- (2) Meat and fish are better if not corn-fed. This means avoiding farm-raised fish and meat, even if they are "organic." Grass-fed beef is ideal.
- (3) Dairy products are better if from range-fed cattle and animals not injected with antibiotics, hormones, or steroids nor fed silo-stored grains. Good products: Brown Cow, Monarch Hills, Redwood Hills. Whipping cream is liquid, unsweetened heavy cream.
- (4) Organically grown vegetables are preferable.
- (5) Excluded because many of them are fermented products

**An example of one week on the initial phase diet**

5 This weeklong example on this diet is not meant to be followed verbatim, and rarely is the duration limited to just one week. Rather, the following is merely to serve as an example.

10 MONDAY

Breakfast: Fried eggs, uncured bacon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  grapefruit

Snack: Almonds, water (always bottled or  
filtered)  
Lunch: Tuna with celery. Herbal tea.  
Snack: carrot sticks, water  
5 Dinner: Steak, steamed veggies, sparkling lime  
water  
(optional) Dessert: Plain yogurt with raspberries

TUESDAY

10 Breakfast: Omelet with onions, leeks, parsley,  
and chopped bacon  
Snack: celery sticks, water  
Lunch: Chicken salad with Phase I dressing  
Snack: cashews, water  
15 Dinner: Salmon fillets with lemon and butter,  
avocado salad  
(optional) Dessert: green apple

WEDNESDAY

20 Breakfast: Poached eggs, freshly squeezed  
carrot juice  
Snack: walnuts, water  
Lunch: broccoli chicken without rice,  
herbal tea  
25 Snack: grapefruit, water  
Dinner: Steak, spinach salad with lemon juice and  
olive oil dressing  
(optional) Dessert: plain yogurt with chopped pecans and  
fresh cranberries

30

THURSDAY

Breakfast: scrambled eggs with breakfast steak  
Snack: green apple wedges, almonds, herbal  
35 tea  
Lunch: tuna salad with lettuce  
Snack: broccoli, cauliflower, water  
Dinner: halibut with sautéed vegetables  
(optional) Dessert: yogurt with fresh blueberries

40

FRIDAY

Breakfast: freshly squeezed carrot juice, hard  
boiled eggs

Snack: celery sticks or green apple wedges with almond or cashew butter

Lunch: beef patties, steamed and buttered asparagus

5 Snack: sunflower seeds, water

Dinner: Kaufmann's favorite meal (see recipes)

(optional) Dessert:  $\frac{1}{2}$  grapefruit

SATURDAY

10 Breakfast: Omelet with green onions, bacon, spinach leaves

Snack: carrot sticks

Lunch: Cucumber salad with onions, tomatoes, black olives, olive oil

15 Snack: pecans, yogurt with blackberries, water

Dinner: Steak with steamed broccoli

(optional) Dessert: sautéed green apples and cranberries with roasted pecans and whipping cream

20 SUNDAY

Breakfast: Freshly squeezed carrot juice,  $\frac{1}{2}$  grapefruit, poached eggs

Snack: pumpkin seeds, water

25 Lunch: salad with grilled tuna, herbal tea

Snack: celery sticks, water

Dinner: Stir-fried chicken, broccoli, snow peas, squash with butter

30 (optional) Dessert: almonds, chamomile tea

**Antifungal Examples**

35 Examples of antifungal prescriptive medications as well as naturally-occurring antifungal and anti-mycotoxin supplements to be used either alone or in conjunction with a carbohydrate-sparring diet in the treatment of a bloodstream or soft-tissue diabetes.

40

1. Fluconazole (Diflucan®, Apo-Fluconazole®) 200mg in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) by mouth every other day for 30 days

2. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 200-400mg in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) by mouth or intravenously daily for 14 days
- 5 3. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 200mg in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) by mouth daily for three consecutive days, followed by 200mg each Monday and Thursday thereafter for one month total
- 10 4. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) in any of the combinations listed in #1-3 above in combination and simultaneous with Nystatin (Mycostatin®) oral tablets, 500,000units per tablet, 2 tablets twice a day for 30 days, or in combination with and simultaneous with any of the preparations of Nystatin listed below in #9-13.
- 15 5. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 800mg per day in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) intravenously for 7 days.
- 20 6. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 200mg by mouth in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) on day one, then 100mg per day for the next 14 days.
- 25 7. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 400mg in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) by mouth daily for 3-12 months.
8. Fluconazole (Diflucan®) 400mg in tablet or suspension form (10mg/ml or 40mg/ml) by mouth daily for 8 weeks.
- 25 9. Nystatin (Mycostatin®) oral tablets, 500,000units per tablet, 2-3 tablets by mouth 2-4 times a day for 30 days, taken alone or in combination with a systemic antifungal agent.
- 30 10. Nystatin (Mycostatin®, Bio-statin®, Nystat-Rx®, Nystop®, Pedi-dri®, Nilstat®) oral suspension, 100,000units per ml concentration, 2cc by mouth twice a day for 14 days, taken alone or in combination with a systemic antifungal agent.
- 35 11. Nystatin (Mycostatin®, Bio-statin®, Nystat-Rx®, Nystop®, Pedi-dri®) oral suspension, 100,000units per ml concentration, 1cc in each side of the mouth four times a day for 10 days, taken alone or in combination with a systemic antifungal agent.
- 40 12. Nystatin (Mycostatin®, Bio-statin®, Nystat-Rx®, Nystop®, Pedi-dri®) oral suspension, 100,000units per ml concentration, 5cc by mouth,

swished in the mouth and swallowed for 10 days, taken alone or in combination with a systemic antifungal agent.

5 13. Nystatin compounded powder, 500,000units per 1/8 tsp, mixed in  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of water and taken by mouth 4 times a day for 30 days, taken alone or in combination with a systemic antifungal agent.

10 14. Itraconazole (Sporanox®) in any of the following doses and/or regimens, alone or in combination with any of the Nystatin preparations listed in #9-13 above:

15 a. 100mg capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) by mouth daily for 30 days

b. 100mg capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) by mouth every other day for 30 days.

20 c. 200mg in capsule form or 200mg of the oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) by mouth twice a day for one week of each month for three consecutive months.

d. Any of the above regimens (a-c) above preceded by:

25 i. a loading dose of 200mg intravenously twice a day for four consecutive doses, or

ii. 200mg, either in capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml) form by mouth, three times a day for 3 consecutive days.

30 e. 200mg intravenously twice a day for four consecutive days, followed by 200mg intravenously, daily for 14 days.

f. 200mg per day in capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) form by mouth for 3 months.

35 g. 200mg per day in capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) form by mouth for 6 months.

h. 200mg per day in capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) form by mouth for 9 months

40 i. 300mg by mouth in capsule or oral solution (10mg/ml concentration) form, twice a day for three days, followed by 200mg twice a day for 12 weeks.

15. Terbinafine (Lamisil®, Apo-Terbinafine®, Gen-Terbinafine®, Novo-Terbinafine®, PMS-Terbinafine®) in any of the following doses, alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above:

- 5 a. 250mg tablet by mouth daily for 6 weeks
- b. 250mg tablet by mouth daily for 12 weeks
- c. 250mg tablet by mouth, twice a day for 3 weeks
- d. 250mg tablet by mouth daily for 2-8 weeks.
- 10 e. 250-500mg by mouth daily for up to 16 months.
- f. For children:
  - i. 67.5mg by mouth per day for 2-8 weeks for children weighing under 20kg
  - 15 ii. 125mg by mouth per day for 2-8 weeks for children weighing from 20-40kg
  - iii. 250mg by mouth per day for children weighing over 40kg.
- 15 g. 250mg tablet by mouth every other day for 30 days.

20. Ketoconazole (Nizoral®, Apo-ketoconazole®, Ketoderm®, Novo-ketoconazole®) in the following doses and/or regimens, alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above:

- 25 a. 200-400mg by mouth daily for 2 weeks
- b. 200-400mg by mouth daily for 30 days
- c. 200-400mg by mouth daily for 6 months.
- d. For children over 2: 3.3-6.6 mg/kg/day for anywhere from 1 week up to 6 months.

30. Clotrimazole (Mycelex®, Canesten®) 10mg oral troche dissolved on tongue and swallowed 5 times a day for 14 days.

35. Caspofungin Acetate (Cancidas®): 70mg loading dose intravenously on day 1, followed by 50mg intravenously daily until the clinical status of the patient improves; taken alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above.

40. Voriconazole (Vfend®): for children over 12 and adults- 6mg/kg intravenously every 12 hours for 2 doses, followed by 4mg/kg intravenously every 12 hours until the clinical status of the patient improves, at which time the oral form of the medication- 400mg every 12 hours- is used in place

of the intravenous form; taken alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above.

5 20. Amphotericin B (ABLC®, Amphotec®, AmBisome®, ABCD®, Amphocil®, Fungizone®) in any of the following doses and regimens, alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above:

10 a. 1mg/kg/day intravenously for 14 days  
b. 0.5mg/kg/day intravenously to a total dose of over 1500mg.  
c. 0.5mg/kg/day intravenously to a total dose of 5-7mg/kg  
d. 0.5mg/kg/day intravenously until clinical improvement is noted  
15 e. 0.5-1.0mg/kg/day intravenously for 7 days  
f. 1cc (100mg) of the oral suspension form by mouth 4 times a day for 14 days.

20 21. Flucytosine (Ancobon®): 100mg/kg/day by mouth every 6 hours until clinical improvement is noted in the patient; alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above

25 22. Griseofulvin (Fulvicin®, Fulvicin-U/F®, Grifulvin-V®, Gris-PEG®) in any of the following doses and/or regimens, alone or in combination and simultaneously with any of the nystatin regimens in #9-13 above:

30 a. 500-1000mg per day of the microsized formula orally for  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 months  
b. 330-375mg/day of the ultramicrosized formula orally for  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 months  
c. For children:  
35 i. 10-15mg of the microsized formula/kg body weight/day for  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 months  
ii. 5.5-7.3mg of the ultramicrosized formula/kg/day for  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 6 months

35 23. "Natural" Antifungals:  
40 a. Grapefruit seed extract: Citricidal® 33%- 15 drops mixed in water, taken orally twice a day  
b. Olive leaf extract, 900mg twice a day for 30 days or until clinical improvement is noted  
c. Garlic 1,000mg fresh extract three times a day until clinical improvement is noted.

- d. Burdock root (*Arctium lappa*): 1,000mg daily until clinical improvement is noted
- e. Caprylic Acid: 1500mg three times a day until clinical improvement is noted.
- 5 f. Pau d'arco (*Tabebuia impetiginosa*): 1000mg by mouth, three times a day until clinical improvement is noted.
- g. Undecylenic acid: 250mg three times a day until clinical improvement is noted.
- 10 h. Selenium: 200mcg per day by mouth as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet (see "Initial Phase Diet," above) and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- i. Zinc picolinate or zinc citrate: 30mg daily by mouth as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 15 j. Iodine (in this case, the prescriptive form: Potassium Iodide (SSKI®, Iosat®, Pima®, Lugol's solution, KI): 5 drops three times a day by mouth, increasing to 40-50 drops 3 times a day and continuing for 3-6 months, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 20 k. Vitamin C, 2,000mg per day by mouth as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 25 l. Vitamin E, 400IU twice a day by mouth as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- m. Vitamin D, 400IU daily by mouth as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 30 n. Broccoli sprouts (containing sulforophane), 250mg capsule three times a day orally, as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 35 o. Oregano oil, in liquid extract or capsules: 15-45mg of carvacrol (active constituent) three times a day orally, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 40

- p. Orange Oil: 2 drops of 100% pure orange oil three times a day orally, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 5 q. Peppermint oil: 2 drops of 100% pure peppermint oil three times a day orally, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 10 r. Lemon myrtle oil (*Backhousia Citriodora*)—(citral is the active component): 2 drops three times a day, diluted in water, orally, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 15 s. Pterostilbene (in grape skin): 250mg grape seed with grape skin extract-containing the pterostilbene—twice a day, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.
- 20 t. Fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*) seed: 1.22grams three times a day, alone or as an adjunct to a carbohydrate-sparing diet and/or either natural or prescriptive antifungals.

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Although preferred embodiments of the invention have been illustrated in the accompanying Drawings and described in the foregoing Detail Description, it will 30 be understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments disclosed but is capable of numerous rearrangements, modifications, and substitutions of parts and elements without departing from the spirit of the invention.